



## SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES and APPLICATION

The Scholarship Committee of the **Southeast Michigan Omega Foundation, Inc. (SMOFI)** is pleased to announce its 2021 scholarship opportunities. We are seeking students who meet the following requirements:

- African-American male senior who attends a high school in Southeast Michigan (Macomb, Oakland, Washtenaw or Wayne counties)
- Will attend an accredited 4-year College or University, beginning Fall Semester 2021
- Possess a minimum cumulative G.P.A. of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale
- Demonstrate good citizenship and involvement in extracurricular activities
- Qualified students with documented financial need may receive funding priority

In addition to the eligibility criteria above, applicants are required to electronically submit:

- A high school transcript
- The completed scholarship application, including an essay and all supporting information.
- Two (2) Letters of Recommendation. One (1) from a school official **and** one (1) from a non-school official/non-family member.
- The signed Applicant Certification and Photograph Release form.

**OPTIONAL:** The Student Aid Report (SAR) from your completed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Application materials must be submitted by **E-MAIL ONLY.**

Please E-mail completed application and supporting materials to  
Mr. Brandon Jackson; E-mail: [smofi@smofi.org](mailto:smofi@smofi.org)

Application materials must be  
**received by Friday, April 16, 2021**

For questions call (313) 875-9980 or E-mail: [smofi@smofi.org](mailto:smofi@smofi.org)

Sincerely,

*Brandon Jackson*

Mr. Brandon Jackson, Chairman  
Scholarship Committee

*Lee Oliphant*

Mr. Lee Oliphant, Chairman  
**Southeast Michigan Omega Foundation, Inc.**

Visit [www.smofi.org](http://www.smofi.org) to learn more about the Southeast Michigan Omega Foundation, Inc. (SMOFI)

## ABOUT THE SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN OMEGA FOUNDATION, INC. (SMOFI)

The Southeast Michigan Omega Foundation, Inc. (SMOFI) is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization that supports African American male youth—through its mentoring programs and college scholarships. The goal is to maximize their potential...from boys to Men. Originally organized in 1982 as the Detroit Omega Foundation, Inc., SMOFI is the result of a strategic merger including the Detroit Omega Foundation, Inc.—Detroit, the Greater Ann Arbor Omega Foundation—Ann Arbor and the Omega C.A.R.E.S. Foundation—Southfield. Since January 2015, the Detroit Omega Foundation, Inc. (DOFI) is now doing business as the Southeast Michigan Omega Foundation, Inc. (SMOFI) and impacting the lives of students in Southeast Michigan.

## ABOUT THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

SMOFI scholarship awards are based on academic achievement, financial need and other relevant factors. Each scholarship award is \$1,500. All awards are for one year and may be renewed for up to three additional years—for a total award of four (4) years. The scholarships are awarded in recognition of Members of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. who dedicate (or dedicated) their lives to education and outstanding achievement.

### **William A. McGill** (March 27, 1923 – August 5, 2008)

William A. McGill attended Morehouse College and was initiated through Psi Chapter in 1946. He graduated from Morehouse College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science in 1947. He later received a Master of Arts degree from the University of Michigan and completed further studies at Wayne State University and the University of Michigan. Brother McGill retired after a stellar career of public service. He was the principal for Statesboro Junior High School—Statesboro, GA, and Political Science teacher at both Grambling State University and Wayne County Community College. He held numerous positions in the City of Detroit, Wayne County government and the State of Michigan. Brother McGill served Omega in many capacities during 60+ years of service. He was a past Basileus and Vice Basileus of Nu Omega Chapter—Detroit, MI. He served as Chairman of Nu Omega's UNCF pledge drive. During his tenure as National Alumni Council President and Detroit Inter-Alumni Council President, he raised over 22 million dollars for the UNCF/College Endowment Fund. William A. "Bill" McGill wore many hats throughout his life as a mentor, teacher, scholar, church trustee, administrator, fundraiser, friend and Brother. He provided life-long dedicated service and uplift of youth through education.

### **John H. Williams** (October 16, 1918 – February 25, 2019)

While attending Shaw University, John H. Williams played basketball and Majored in Social Studies. His education was interrupted when he was drafted into the U.S. Army, during World War II. Mr. Williams used his weapon of choice, a camera, to document the life and culture of Black soldiers overseas and stateside. After his tour of duty, John returned to Shaw University, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1947. Later, he moved to Detroit and began working as a photographer for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. He studied Photography at Wayne State University (Detroit, MI) and Eastman Kodak in Rochester, New York. During his graduate studies at Wayne State University, John was initiated into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity through Nu Sigma Chapter in 1955. Almost immediately, Brother Williams did what he has done, so well, throughout his life – photographing priceless historical moments of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity events. Brother John Williams was appointed as the first Official International Photographer for the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. After 33 years of service as the Fraternity's Official International Photographer, Brother Williams retired from his post in 2006. He was later named as Omega's "International Photographer Emeritus." Today, Brother Williams' photographic work is housed in the John H. Williams Museum, located at the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's International Headquarters—in Decatur, Georgia.

### **Sidney L. Moore** (June 16, 1932 – May 20, 2008)

Sidney L. Moore earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Jackson State University—Jackson, Mississippi in 1953. After graduation, he enrolled in the U.S. Army Signal Corps where he served as a Cryptographic Specialist while stationed in Okinawa, Japan. Upon his return to the United States, Mr. Moore taught chemistry and general science at Magnolia High School in Moss Point, Mississippi until 1957 when he moved to Ann Arbor to attend the University of Michigan. Sidney Moore earned a Master of Science degree in Educational Psychology from the University of Michigan in 1959 and began a 38-year career as a teacher of mathematics and science at the University of Michigan Hospital Neuropsychiatric Institute. He became a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.—Epsilon Epsilon Chapter, in the Fall of 1950. On December 19, 1964 Sigma Rho Chapter was chartered in Ann Arbor, as a Graduate Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. One of sixteen (16) Charter Members, Brother Moore was elected as the first Chapter Basileus (President) and he remained an active community leader in the greater Ann Arbor area and an influential member of Sigma Rho Chapter for nearly 44 years. He was also a member of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity (the Boulé) and the National Council of Meridianites (Detroit Chapter).

### **Dr. Clarence B. Vaughn** (December 18, 1928 -)

Clarence B. Vaughn attended Benedict College in Columbia, South Carolina where he was a model student and President of his class. From 1951-1955, he attended Howard University to receive a Master of Science degree in Chemistry and then a Doctorate in Medicine in 1957. In 1965 he was awarded Doctorate of Philosophy degree in Physiological Chemistry at Wayne State University. In December of 1957 he was commissioned as first lieutenant in the medical corps of the U. S. Air Force Reserves. In June 1959, he entered active duty as Captain and was stationed at the Wright-Patterson AFB hospital in Ohio. In 1967, he was appointed medical Service Liaison Officer for Wayne State University. After serving as Colonel for a number of years, Dr. Clarence Vaughn was nominated for one of the military's highest honors, Brigadier General. Although he did not receive the promotion, because of age, he has flown over 844 hours in air crew status and was rated as a Chief Flight Surgeon. Dr. Clarence Vaughn was one of three who were pioneers of the first cancer research and treatment units in the city of Detroit. He is a world-renowned cancer specialist (oncologist), who helped to introduce new medicines and state-of-the art technology to the field of Oncology. Dr. Vaughn joined Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., in 1949—Epsilon Epsilon Chapter, where he served as the Basileus of his Chapter. Dr. Vaughn is currently an active member of Tau Kappa Kappa Chapter—Southfield, MI.

## REQUIREMENTS

Family members of SMOFI Board of Directors are not eligible for SMOFI scholarship awards. Applicants should be African-American male high school seniors in Southeast Michigan, who have been (or will be) accepted for admission to a 4-year accredited College or University. Proof of enrollment will be required before any funds are disbursed. Scholarship recipients will be notified of their award on or before May 15, 2021. Recipients and a family representative are expected to attend our Scholarship Banquet (or Virtual Recognition Ceremony) – Scholarship recipients will be notified of the event date. Failure to participate may result in forfeiture of the award.

### **Southeast Michigan Omega Foundation (SMOFI)**

*2021 Scholarship Guidelines*

[www.smofi.org](http://www.smofi.org)



# 2021 SMOFI SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

## Application Instructions

Complete this application in its **entirety** and **strictly**, as directed. **All items must be submitted electronically, by E-mail—all at one time.**

- Complete **items 1-9** (fillable PDF form).
- Provide responses to **items 10-11**. Your **essay and involvement list** should be word processed, single spaced, using 12 or 14-point font size. —Name this PDF file “Essay.”
- Read, sign and include the **Applicant Certification and Photograph Release** (fillable PDF form)—Page 3.
- Submit your high school transcript (Student Copy Transcript is sufficient). The transcript **must** show your cumulative G.P.A. through *seven (7) high school semesters*.

**OPTIONAL:** In order to share your financial need, provide us a copy of the first page of your **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**, specifically, the Student Aid Report (SAR) that shows Expected Family Contribution (EFC). —Name this PDF file “EFC”

Use **Attachment Checklist** - Page 2 to ensure that all items are included. E-mail the completed application with **ALL** supporting materials to: [smofi@smofi.org](mailto:smofi@smofi.org) by **Friday, April 16, 2021**.

### Applicant Information (fillable PDF form)

1. How did you learn about this scholarship opportunity? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Do you know any member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.—family, close friend, etc.? If yes, please provide his name, tell us how you know him, provide his Chapter affiliation and phone number (if available). \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  Male  Female  

First Name	Middle Initial	Last Name
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4. \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  

Address	City	Zip Code	County	Phone Number
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5. \_\_\_\_\_  U.S. Citizenship  Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_  

E-mail Address
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6. \_\_\_\_\_  

Name of High School	City	County	Graduation Date	Cumulative GPA
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7. College/University you plan to attend \_\_\_\_\_  

Name	City/State
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8. Anticipated Major \_\_\_\_\_
9. Parent/Guardian Contact Information

Name:
Street Address:
City:                      State:                      Zip Code:
Cell Phone Number (       )



10. **Essay Requirement.** Please **choose one** of the following two topic options and write an essay of a minimum of 350 words, and not exceeding 750 words. Please place a on the essay.

The experience of African American men in the United States is a story of tragedies and triumphs, marked by injustice and overcoming adversity despite incredible odds. The recent Black Lives Matter Movement, in response to police brutality against African American men, is an urgent call for social justice, equality, and an end to racism. The mission of SMOFI is to help African American males fulfill their dreams and ambitions.

**Essay Option 1**

*The lessons we learn from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to our success. Tell about a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience? How will it help you become successful in college and your career?*

**Essay Option 2**

*Discuss an accomplishment, event, or awareness you experienced that caused personal growth and a new understanding of your power. How will you use this power to fulfill your life goals?*

11. **Extracurricular Activities, Honors & Awards, Leadership Positions and Work Experience** – Provide a list of your extracurricular activities, honors, community service, leadership positions held and/or work experience during high school.
12. E-mail **two (2) Letters of Recommendation**. One (1) from a **school official** and one (1) from a **non-school official/non-family member**. Name this PDF file **“Recommendations”**

Each Letter of Recommendation should include:

- How the recommender knows the applicant and the length of time known the applicant.
- A statement of the reasons the recommender believes the applicant has the ability to succeed in college.
- Recommender Information (**required**) – printed name, signature and contact information.

**Attachment Checklist**

All items must be E-mailed—all at one time. Please verify that you have attached:

- High school transcript—**Student Copy**—PDF file named **“Transcript”**
- Completed Application (items 1-9) — fillable PDF form
- Typed Essay and Supplementary Documents (**items 10-12**)—PDF file named **“Essay and Involvement”**
- Two (2) Recommendations (school & non-school/non-family)—PDF file named **“Recommendations”**
- Signed Applicant Certification and Photograph Release (Page 3) — fillable PDF form
- OPTIONAL:** First page of Student Aid Report (SAR) from your FAFSA that shows Expected Family Contribution (EFC) —PDF file named **“EFC”**

**An interview, scheduled following application evaluation, may be required for prospective scholarship recipients.**

**Application materials must be submitted by E-MAIL ONLY.**

E-mail completed application and supporting materials to Mr. Brandon Jackson;  
E-mail: [smofi@smofi.org](mailto:smofi@smofi.org)

**Application materials must be E-mailed and received by Friday, April 16, 2021**

Questions may be directed to the SMOFI Scholarship Committee:

Mr. Brandon Jackson  
(313) 875-9980  
E-mail: [smofi@smofi.org](mailto:smofi@smofi.org)



## APPLICANT CERTIFICATION and PHOTOGRAPH RELEASE

(Required for all applicants and parents/guardians)

### Applicant Certification (fillable PDF form)

- If requested, I agree to be available to participate in an interview with the Scholarship Committee.
- As part of this application, I authorize school personnel and/or other individuals to provide data or information about me directly to the Southeast Michigan Omega Foundation, Inc. and to waive the right to review any such submissions.
- I understand that falsification of information may result in termination of the granted scholarship and result in having to return any disbursed scholarship funds.
- I understand that I may be asked to verify any income information, provided in this application.
- I agree that the Southeast Michigan Omega Foundation, Inc. has permission to use general (non-financial) information provided in this application, for publicity purposes.
- I understand that all information provided in this application will remain in the possession of the Southeast Michigan Omega Foundation, Inc.
- I understand that, if selected, I must provide proof of enrollment to a 4-year accredited College/University prior to receiving a scholarship award payment.
- I understand that, if selected, I may be required to maintain a certain G.P.A. to receive ongoing scholarship payments. I will keep the Southeast Michigan Omega Foundation, Inc. informed of my academic status—as requested.
- I understand that, if selected, the scholarship award will be used for college expenses for the 2021/2022 school year.

### Photograph Release (fillable PDF form)

I/We, \_\_\_\_\_ (Parent/Guardian), as parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of (Applicant's Name) \_\_\_\_\_, give permission for the Southeast Michigan Omega Foundation, Inc. (SMOFI) to publish on the Internet or other media, still photographs or moving images; including if applicable, any sound recordings accompanying the images taken of my child during the SMOFI Scholarship Awards Banquet (and/or image(s) provided in this scholarship application and selection process) without payment or any consideration and without notifying me. I/We understand and agree that these images will become the property of SMOFI, which shall have complete ownership of the images. I hereby irrevocably authorize SMOFI to publish and/or distribute these images for the purpose of publicizing scholarship programming and for any other lawful related purpose. In addition, I waive any right to inspect or approve the finished product wherein my child's likeness appears. Additionally, I waive any rights to royalties or other compensation arising out of or related to the use of the images.

By signing below, we read, understand and affirm **all of the information on this page**. We further certify that **all of the information provided in this application** is truthful, accurate and complete to the best of our knowledge.

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Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Signature date

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Applicant Signature date